Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL POSS DUPE

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ORIGIN AF-06

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-05 DODE-00 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00

PM-03 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 /044 R

DRAFTED BY AF/W:WGRAMSAY:JW APPROVED BY AF MR. BLAKE AF/W:JLLOUGHRAN DOD/ISA:COL.SKOGERBOE (INFO) AF/I:JANDEREGG AID/AFR/CWR:JAPATTERSON

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P 112359Z FEB 75 FM SECSTATE WASHDC TO AMEMBASSY OUAGADOUGOU PRIORITY INFO AMEMBASSY BAMAKO PRIORITY

CONFIDENTIAL STATE 031401

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PBOR, MILI, ML, UV

SUBJECT: VISIT OF MALIAN DEFENSE MINISTER TO U.S.

REF: A. OUAGA 364; B. BAMAKO 535

1. WE DO NOT AGREE THAT YOU SHOULD INFORM GOUV IN ADVANCE OF MALIAN MINISTER OF DEFENSE DOUKARA'S PROPOSED VISIT TO WASHINGTON. FIRST, OUR POSTURE WITH RESPECT TO MALI-UPPER VOLTA TENSIONS ARISING FROM THE BORDER DISPUTE HAS TO THIS MOMENT BEEN ONE OF STRICT NEUTRALITY AND EVEN ALOOFNESS. BECAUSE WE ENJOY AMICABLE RELATIONS WITH BOTH PARTIES TO THE DISPUTE, WE DO NOT CONSIDER IT APPROPRIATE OR NECESSARY TO INFORM EITHER PARTY IN SUCH DETAIL OF OUR ROUTINE DIPLOMATIC COMMUNICATIONS WITH THE OTHER. WE CAN SEE NO MORE JUSTIFICATION FOR VOLUNTEERING TO THE GOUV DOUKARA'S PROPOSED VISIT THAN FOR VOLUNTEERING TO THE GOM THE FACT THAT THE VOLTANS HAVE BEEN PRESSING US FOR ARMS CONFIDENTIAL CONFIDENTIAL

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ASSISTANCE/COMMERCIAL SALES SINCE LAST DECEMBER. OF SECONDARY IMPORTANCE, BUT WORTH CONSIDERING NEVERTHELESS, IS RISK WE WOULD RUN OF ANTICIPATING A VISIT WHICH MAY NOT OCCUR. DOUKARA HAS THREATENED TO VISIT WASHINGTON BEFORE, OUR LATCH KEY WAS OUT AND SUPPER WENT COLD ON THE STOVE. THIS COULD HAPPEN AGAIN.

2. FYI AND ON IF-ASKED BASIS ONLY: THIS VISIT WAS IN FACT PLANNED SOME TIME AGO AND IT IS OUR UNDERSTANDING THAT DOUKARA DESIRES TO DISCUSS WITH US SAHELIAN RELIEF MEASURES ONLY. END FYI.

INGERSOLL

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Subject: VISIT OF MALIAN DEFENSE MINISTER TO U.S. TAGS: PBOR, MILI, ML, UV, US, (DOUKARA, KISSIMA)

To: OUAGADOUGOU

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